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Calendar No. 1165

82D CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 1245

HARUMI KAMIAKA

MARCH 3 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 25), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1765]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 1765) for the relief of Harumi Kamiaka, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

AMENDMENT

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That for the purposes of section 4 (a) and section 9 of the Immigration Act of 1924, as amended, and notwithstanding any provisions excluding from admission to the United States persons of races ineligible to citizenship, Harumi Kamiaka, a minor half-Japanese child, shall be considered the alien natural-born child of Sergeant and Mrs. James B. C. Wells, citizens of the United States.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill, as amended, is to waive the racial barrier to admission into the United States in behalf of a minor half-Japanese child in the custody of Sgt. and Mrs. James B. C. Wells. The child would be considered to be a nonquota immigrant, which is the status normally enjoyed by the alien minor children of United States citizens.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill was born in Japan of a Japanese mother and an American father on June 15, 1949. The mother placed the child in the Tokyo Chapel Center and subsequently the child was given to Sgt. and Mrs. James B. C. Wells, who are United States

citizens. The bill as originally introduced did not provide for a racial waiver and the bill has been amended accordingly.

Senator William F. Knowland, the author of the bill, has submitted a number of documents in connection with the bill, among which are the following:

MAY 21, 1951.

Hon. WILLIAM KNOWLAND,
United States Senate, Washington 25, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR KNOWLAND: I am requesting your assistance in submitting necessary legislation to permit the entry into the United States of America, of one Harumi Kamiaka, born the 15th of June 1949, in Tokyo, Japan, the offspring of a Japanese woman, Mrs. Kiyoko Kamiaka, and an American Department of the Army civilian, who has returned to America.

The mother brought Harumi (known to us as Cheryl Marie) to the GHQ Tokyo Chapel Center, in hopes that they would help her get Cheryl adopted by an American family. Before Cheryl was given into our care, we met and received the approval of the mother.

We are enclosing a release from the mother and the Japanese man her mother was married to at the time of the birth. They have since obtained a divorce, because of the father's refusal to raise an American-fathered child. The mother told us she is not releasing Cheryl because of lack of love, but simply because of the actions of her friends, family, and neighbors, she has come to realize that Cheryl would never be accepted nor receive the opportunities that she could in America. Also, that, due to lack of work, she would not be able to clothe and feed her. She refused to leave her in an orphan's home, where Cheryl would have been cared for by strangers who could not possibly have given her the love all children require.

We have had Cheryl in our home for 3 weeks. During this time, we have found her well-mannered, bright and alert for her age. She spoke nothing but Japanese and now has a vocabulary of about 20 words in English and picks up new ones every day.

We sincerely want Cheryl for our own, and we will try to the best of our ability to raise her as a good American girl.

The following information is given with reference to my wife and myself:

I was born 1 May 1917, at Alexandria, Va., the son of James B. Wells and Isabelle M. Dobson, of 1113 North Pitt Street, present address given. I attended both grammar and high school there.

I joined the Army Air Force on the 24th of July 1941, and remained in the service of our country until November 19, 1945, when I asked for discharge to accept civilian employment in Los Angeles, Calif., with Refrigerator Manufactures, Inc. of Hawthorne, where we planned to make our home. On the 7th of April 1947, I reenlisted in the United States Air Force and decided to make a career of it. I am working in the supply field in maintenance and supply.

My wife, Shirley Evelyn Freed Wells, was born in Arkansas City, Kans., April 15 1925, the daughter of Ralph Lewis Freed and Loretta Marie Anthony. Mrs. Wells' mother died when she was 9 years of age, and her father sent her to live with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Clifford, of 1515 West Sixty-fourth Street, Los Angeles, Calif. She attended grammar school at Budlong Avenue School, and Horace Mann Junior High. She also attened North Hollywood High School.

We were married on September 5, 1944, and have been living together continuously, except for the necessary time for her to join me here in Japan. We have always had a wish for children but have never been blessed with one, and would like this opportunity to serve this child as we would have our own.

We are due to return to the States in March of 1952, so would appreciate your help in getting the necessary papers as soon as possible. However, if we need more time, we will extend our tour in Japan.

The following-named persons are sent you as references:

Mrs. and Mrs. Francis Brown, Box 23, Arkansas City, Kans.

Mrs. Mary Jane Broadbent, 214 South B Arkansas City, Kans.

Mrs. Belle M. Edwards, 543 Eleventh SE., Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Clifford, 1515 West Sixty-fourth Street, Los Angeles 47, Calif.

Sincerely,

JAMES B. C. WELLS,
Staff Sergeant, USAF, AF33096959,
1503d Maintenance Squadron, APO 226.

TOKYO ARMY HOSPITAL, APO 1052,
May 19, 1951.

Subject: Physical examination of child.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that on this date, Cheryl Marie Wells, adopted child of Staff Sgt. James B. C. Wells, AF 33096959, was examined by me and found to be free of all physical defects of body or mind.

J. W. HARKNESS,
Captain, Medical Corps.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 1765), as amended, should be enacted.

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